Statement, by caste, of First Grade Clerks in the Huzur Secretariat.

25 **MR. K. T. THOMAS** : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by communities, of the First Grade clerks in the Huzur Secretariat?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: There are no first grade clerks so called in the Secretariat. If the member refers to the clerks in the highest grade, *i. e.*, on the scale of Rs. 100-5-125, there are ten such clerks. 2 of them are Brahmins, 5 Nairs, and 3 other Hindus.

The Cocoanut Farm at Alleppey.

26. **MR. K. T. THOMAS**: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing:

(*a*) the acreage of the cocoanut farm at Alleppey;

(*b*) the total investment in respect of it; and

(*c*) the income and expenditure in respect of it for the last five years?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP:

(*a*) 8·81 acres.

(*b*) Rs. 15,754.

(*c*)

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1108	177	539
1109	212	308
1110	167	673
1111	131	656
1112	187	360

Eradication of paddy and cocoanut pests.

27 **MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any remedial measures have been found out to eradicate the insect which eats away the paddy seedlings of the punja land ordinarily called "*punjapuzhu*";

(*b*) whether the life history of this insect has been studied by the State Entomologist; and

(*c*) the remedial measures adopted to combat the cocoanut leaf destroying pest (*thengolapuzhu*)?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Whenever the occurrence of this pest is noticed in a new area, the process of cutting and burning the affected leaves of the palm is recommended as a remedial measure to prevent the spread of the attack to neighbouring plantations Breeding suitable parasites and liberating them in the affected plantations is a biological measure of control over the pest. During the current year alone, 21,953 trees were treated in this way in the taluks of Vaikom and Shertallai and 1,892 tubes of parasites were liberated. Additional information regarding this can be had from the administration report of the Department for previous years.

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